

Washington State Credentialing Requirements

Registered Nurse (Chapter 18.79 RCW, 246-840 WAC)

Type of Credential:

License

DOH Contact:

Customer Service Center - 360-236-4700

Credentialing Requirements	Verification Documents Obtained
Graduation from an approved nursing program	Official transcript with degree and date posted, received directly from the school of nursing. Transcripts can be received from another state board if education must be verified for applicants licensing by endorsement.
State licensure verification	State verification form must be completed by other state nursing boards where applicant was licensed. Form must be sent directly from out-of-state nursing board to the commission, or obtained through the online Nursys verification system. Applicant must get verification whether their license is active or inactive. Query of the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Disciplinary Data Bank is completed for applicants licensed in multiple states.
Statement about: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• physical and mental health status• lack of impairment due to chemical dependency/substance abuse• history of loss of license, certification or registration• felony convictions• loss or limitations of privileges• disciplinary actions• professional liability claims history	Applicant must answer personal data questions. An appropriate explanation and required documentation must be sent with positive answers. If there is a positive answer to the professional liability claims history question, the applicant must send an explanation of the nature of the case, data and summary of care given, copies of the original complaint, and the settlement or final disposition. If pending, applicant must indicate status.

Additional Information/Documents Required

- HIV/AIDS training – seven hours
- Successful completion of exam for license

Process for Approving/Denying Applications

Credentialing staff review the application and supporting documents to make an initial determination on eligibility. The recommendation is based upon the requirements outlined in RCW 18.19 & WAC 246-810. Credentialing manager approves all applications. If there is an application with a positive answer on the personal data questions, or is questionable, that application may become a “red flag” application. Red flag applications are forwarded to the exception application process for determination by the commission. An applicant will be formally notified of a denial and has the opportunity for a hearing.

Renewal Requirements

Registered nurses must renew their registration every year on or before their birthday. A continuing competency program is in place requiring 531 practice hours and 45 continuing education hours every three years.

